

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 32 (currently amended): A geodesic structure comprising a plurality of conical elements, each conical element of said plurality of conical elements having being defined by a cone base, a cone wall and a vertex, said cone wall defined by straight lines that extend from said base and intersect each other at said vertex, wherein said plurality of conical elements are arranged to form a shell, and wherein said plurality of conical elements are arranged such that a distance and a direction of displacement between any two vertexes cone bases of adjacently placed conical elements is infinitely variable between a minimum limit and a maximum limit.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The structure of claim 32, wherein said conical element is a circular cone, ~~wherein said cone wall tapers toward said vertex from a wide end toward a narrow end~~ and said cone base is a circular base, wherein said conical element has an element length defined by a length of said cone wall from said wide end to said narrow end, and wherein said conical elements are placed in an overlapping arrangement wherein a portion of said circular base of a first conical element overlaps with a portion of said cone wall of an adjacent conical element, so as to form said shell.

Claim 34 (currently amended): The structure of claim 33, wherein said conical elements are arranged such that ~~said narrow end of vertex of said circular cone points outward from said shell and a portion of said cone wall of a first conical element overlaps a portion of said cone wall of at least two other conical elements, so as to form said shell.~~

Claim 35 (currently amended): The structure of claim ~~34~~33, wherein said portion of said ~~cone wall of said~~ circular base of said first conical element ~~circular cone~~ overlaps a portion of said cone wall of at least three other adjacent conical elements, so as to form said shell having a closed surface;

wherein said overlapping arrangement further includes an overlap of a portion of said circular base of said first ~~a first~~ conical element ~~that overlaps with a portion of said cone wall of~~ at least a second conical element, a third conical element, and a fourth conical element;

wherein a first amount of overlap between said first conical element and said second conical element forms a first strut distance and direction between said vertexes of said first conical element and said second conical element, a second amount of overlap between said first conical element and said third conical element forms a second strut distance and direction between said vertexes of said first conical element and said third conical element, and a third amount of overlap between said first conical element and said fourth conical element forms a third strut distance and direction between said vertexes of said first conical element and said fourth conical element; and

wherein said first strut distance and direction is any distance and direction between said minimum and said maximum limits, said second strut distance and direction is any distance and direction between said minimum and said maximum limits, and said third strut distance is any distance and direction between said minimum and said maximum limits.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The structure of claim 35, wherein an opening is formed in said shell to provide ~~means to access to~~ an inner space of said shell.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The structure of claim 35, wherein said conical element has an element length defined by a length of said cone wall from said cone base to said vertex and wherein said maximum limit is slightly less than a sum of said element lengths of any two adjacent conical elements.

Claim 38 (currently amended): The structure of claim 35, wherein said conical element has an element length defined by a length of said cone wall from said cone base to said vertex and wherein said minimum limit is slightly greater than one-half of a sum of said element lengths of any two adjacent conical elements.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The structure of claim 32, wherein said conical element is a truncated circular cone, ~~wherein said cone wall tapers toward said vertex from a wide end toward a narrow end, wherein said cone wall is truncated short of said vertex, such that said vertex is an imaginary point defined by a taper of said cone wall, said cone wall being truncated at a location between said base and said vertex, in a plane parallel to said base,~~ and wherein said conical elements are placed tangentially adjacent one another.

Claim 40 (currently amended): The structure of claim 32, wherein each conical element of said plurality of conical elements is a three-sided conical element formed by ~~a wide end, a narrow end,~~ said cone wall, said vertex, and said cone base, wherein said cone wall is a three-sided cone wall having three sections that define a triangular shape and dimension of said conical element on any plane that is parallel to a plane of said cone base.

Claim 41 (original): The structure of claim 40, wherein said plurality of conical elements includes a plurality of said three-sided conical elements having triangular shapes and dimensions that vary from one another.

42 (currently amended): The structure of claim 32, wherein said conical element has an angular ~~deficit~~ a deficit α that defines an amount of taper of said cone wall between said ~~wide end and said narrow end~~ cone base and said vertex, and wherein said angular

deficit α of said conical element varies in magnitude from said angular deficit α of an adjacent conical element.

43 (original): The structure of claim 42, wherein said plurality of conical elements includes two groups of conical elements, each group having a different magnitude of said angular deficit α , and wherein said conical elements of said two groups are arranged in an alternating pattern.

44 (original): The structure of claim 32, further comprising a skin that is placed over said shell.

45 (currently amended): The structure of claim 32, wherein said conical elements are arranged with said ~~narrow end~~ vertex of some of said conical elements facing inward and with said ~~narrow end~~ vertex of other ones of said conical elements facing outward, so as to form said shell having an irregular shape.

46 (original): The structure of claim 32, wherein said conical element is constructed of sheet material from a group of material consisting of paper fiber products, wood fiber products, composite material, sheet metal, corrugated metal, polymeric material, rubber, woven materials, pressed materials, coated materials, and combinations thereof.

47 (original): The structure of claim 32 further comprising a fastening means for attaching said plurality of conical elements to one another, wherein said fastening means includes means from the group consisting of adhesive means, threaded fasteners, staples, crimped edges, folded edges, rivets, hook-and-loop fasteners, nails, and combinations thereof.

Claims 48 – 50 (Canceled)